

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Gordon Vance, on March 14, 2017 at 2:30 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Gordon Vance, Chair (R)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)  
Sen. Dee Brown (R)  
Sen. Edward Buttrey (R)  
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)  
Sen. Jen Gross (D)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Sen. Roger Webb (R)  
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Branch  
Tia Stockton, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 471, 3/7/2017; HB 485, 3/7/2017; HB 509, 3/7/2017; SB 334, 3/7/2017

Executive Action: HB 144 - Be concurred in as amended  
HB 471 - Be concurred in  
HB 485 - Be concurred in as amended  
HB 505 - Be concurred in

00:00:02 Chair Vance

**HEARING ON HB 471**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:36 Rep. Kelly Flynn (R), HD 70, opened the hearing on HB 471, Exceed speed limit when in passing zone.

00:02:03 Sen. Pomnichowski entered the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:28 Major Robert Armstrong, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)

00:05:09 Daniel Truesdell, representing himself

00:07:38 Spook Stang, Motor Carriers of Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:47 Sen. Pomnichowski

00:09:57 Mr. Armstrong, MHP

00:10:08 Sen. Pomnichowski

00:10:29 Mr. Armstrong

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:10:40 Rep. Flynn

00:11:03 Chair Vance

**HEARING ON SB 334**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:11:05 Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 334, Allow permanent registration of heavy trucks, truck-tractors.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:14:11 Nicole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

00:15:30 Jim Steinbiesser, Montana Stockgrowers Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:16:40 Duane Williams, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

00:19:19 Ronda Wiggers, Montana County Treasurers Association (MCTA)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:20:50 Sen. Gross  
00:21:11 Sen. Moore  
00:21:20 Sen. Gross  
00:21:30 Sen. Moore  
00:21:46 Sen. Gross  
00:22:05 Ms. Wiggers, MCTA  
00:22:32 Sen. Brown  
00:23:41 Sen. Moore  
00:24:28 Sen. Whitford  
00:24:51 Ms. Wiggers  
00:25:03 Mr. Williams, MDT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:25:43 Sen. Moore  
00:25:55 Chair Vance

**HEARING ON HB 485**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:26:23 Rep. Theresa Manzella (R), HD 85, opened the hearing on HB 485, Revise drivers license laws related to veterans.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:27:11 Tammy Stefanik, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:28:13 Sen. Brown  
00:28:45 Rep. Manzella  
00:28:55 Sen. Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:29:02 Rep. Manzella  
00:29:11 Chair Vance

**HEARING ON HB 509**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:29:26 Rep. Jimmy Patelis (R), HD 52, opened the hearing on HB 509, Establishing David L. Briese Jr memorial highway.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:32:23 Major Robert Armstrong, Montana Highway Patrol  
00:33:03 Dustin LeRette, Association of Montana Troopers  
00:33:45 Mike Tooley, director, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:34:34 Sen. Brown  
00:35:32 Mr. Tooley, MDT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:36:13 Rep. Patelis  
  
00:36:38 Chair Vance  
00:38:08 Sen. Brown  
00:38:25 Chair Vance  
  
00:38:42 Recess  
01:00:25 Reconvene

Sen. Webb was not present in the meeting room.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 144**

01:00:34 **Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 144 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

01:01:08 Sen. Whitford  
  
01:01:13 Sen. Buttrey entered the meeting.  
  
01:01:44 Patrick McJannet, Motor Vehicle Division, Department of Justice (DOJ)  
01:02:02 Sen. Whitford  
01:02:25 Mr. McJannet, DOJ

01:03:05 **Substitute Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick made a substitute motion that **HB 144 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** (Bill was previously amended on 3/9/2017)

**Discussion:**

01:03:23 Sen. Brown

01:05:05 Sen. Gross

01:06:33 **Vote:** Motion carried 6-4 by roll call vote with Sen. D. Brown, Sen. Vance, Sen. R. Webb and Sen. Whitford voting no. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy. Sen. Fitzpatrick will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 509**

01:07:47 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 509 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried 9-1 by voice vote with Sen. D. Brown voting no. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy. Sen. Richmond will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 485**

01:09:09 **Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 485 BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:09:34 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 485 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy.

**EXHIBIT(his53a01)**

01:10:15 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 485 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy. Sen. Brown will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 471**

01:10:43 **Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 471 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

01:11:01 Sen. Brown

01:11:27 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy. Sen. Fitzpatrick will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 205**

01:11:50 **Motion:** Sen. Fitzpatrick moved that **HB 205 BE CONCURRED IN.**

01:12:10 **Motion:** Sen. Gauthier moved that **HB 205 BE AMENDED.**

**EXHIBIT(his53a02)**

**Discussion:**

01:12:58 Sen. Buttrey

01:13:46 Chair Vance

01:14:02 **Vote:** Motion failed 5-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Boland, Sen. Gauthier, Sen. Gross, Sen. Pomnichowski and Sen. Whitford voting aye. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy.

**Discussion:**

01:14:53 Sen. Whitford

01:15:10 Sen. Gauthier

01:15:17 Sen. Boland

01:15:37 Sen. Brown

01:16:16 **Vote:** Motion failed 5-5 by roll call vote with Sen. D. Brown, Sen. Buttrey, Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Vance and Sen. R. Webb voting aye. Sen. R. Webb voted by proxy.

**Committee Business:**

01:17:02 Chair Vance

01:17:07 Sen. Gross

01:17:13 Chair Vance

01:17:23 Sen. Gross

01:17:28 Sen. Buttrey

01:18:04 Chair Vance

01:18:19 Sen. Buttrey

01:18:24 Sen. Brown

01:18:54 Sen. Buttrey

01:19:34 Sen. Brown

01:19:57 Sen. Whitford

01:20:24 Sen. Buttrey

01:20:42 Chair Vance

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:10 PM

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Tia Stockton, Secretary

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**Additional Documents**

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([his53aad.pdf](#))